

life. In 1997 he founded the Guardian Angel Society, which provides tuition assistance, technological updates, and other improvements to the former Cathedral School in Syracuse. He raised more than \$2 million for the program, and for that effort he was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award by President George W. Bush in 2005. He also received the Post-Standard Achievement Award in 2005 and the Temple Adath Yeshurun Citizen of the year award this past October.

Msgr. Champlin's commitment to the Catholic Church and the people that he served is unquestionable. He was a beloved priest and friend, and will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA W. BARK

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Martha Bark. On February 21, 2008, Mrs. Bark will be celebrated for her contributions to southern New Jersey at the Burlington County Republican Committee and Burlington County Republican Women's Annual Lincoln Day Dinner.

Martha Bark has dedicated a lifetime of service to our communities. A resident of Medford for over 40 years, Martha served on the township school board for 10 years and the township committee for 7 years. She was also appointed mayor and served two full terms.

Furthering her interest in serving the broad community, Martha was elected to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders in 1984. Given her background in education and community preservation, she became the chairperson of the Water Quality Management Board and worked on several additional committees aimed at increasing open space. Martha served four consecutive terms and was appointed freeholder director for 2 years.

After her tenure as a freeholder, Martha went on to become a member of the New Jersey State Assembly for 2 years and finally, a member of the New Jersey State Senate in 1997. As a senator, she served on the Transportation and Economic Growth, Tourism, and Agricultural Committee, where she was elected chairperson. As a former business owner, it was natural for Martha to become a member of the Senate Community & Urban Affairs Committee and also a member of the Senate Budget Committee.

Outside public office, Martha has volunteered her time to various organizations. She was a member of the Burlington County Farmland Preservation Advisory Board and the Burlington County Open Space Advisory Board. Martha also sat on the Burlington County Family Services Board and was a member of the HB Industrial Village Conservancy Board of Trustees.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for her leadership, commitment, and service to the public.

HONORING OF ONE ACCORD MINISTRY AND ALL FIRST DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the efforts of the volunteers of Tennessee and the First District. Of One Accord Ministry is a charity that is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Tennessee has been called the "Volunteer" state by the great efforts of our citizens during The War of 1812. Since The War of 1812 the people of Tennessee continue to show pride, dedication and service through volunteer efforts. People from around the nation are moving into my district to enjoy the wonderful quality of life found in its beauty and the spirit of its people. Our first volunteers were heroes serving in The War of 1812 and our citizens today are heroes sacrificing their time and effort to volunteer in an assortment of ways.

Of One Accord Ministry serves two rural and lowly populated counties in my district and continually utilizes the efforts of nearly 500 people during 2007. These 500 volunteers have sacrificed over 51,533 hours of service and have served over 71,695 people in various ways. The ministry serves from four physical sites offering emergency food distribution, meal delivery for seniors five days a week, participating in our states summer feeding program, offering a free medical clinic, doing home repairs, organizing the county's Christmas programs and others.

Of One Accord does not work alone. They work hand-in-hand with schools, clubs, scouts, and Postal workers to help complete their mission. Similarly, partnerships with businesses, hospitals and laboratories provide other services for the clinic. The help does not stop there; many others supply resources and help in any way possible.

We tend to overlook the millions of volunteers across the nation giving their time and efforts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the volunteers from Of One Accord Ministry who have served for twenty years and all of the volunteers in Tennessee's First District alike.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DOLORES "DEE" BENSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and honor of Dolores "Dee" Benson, a beloved figure in Cleveland area politics and a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Dee was born in 1925 in Altoona, Pennsylvania, where she spent most of her early life. She was an exceptional student at Altoona High School, and had a special gift for foreign languages and science. She was offered a full tuition scholarship to Penn State University, but chose to go to work instead. She married Bud in 1947 and they moved to Cleveland to raise their seven children, Robert, Patrick,

Jacqueline, Mary, Elizabeth, Denise, and Christine. She will also be dearly missed by her eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Dee was incredibly active in her Cleveland neighborhood, serving as President of the Southwest Military Moms; President, Treasurer, and Secretary of Parma Women's Democratic Club; Precinct Committeewoman and Democratic Ward Leader for the community of Seven Hills; and a founding member of St. Anthony of Padua Parish; just to name a few of her many accomplishments and activities.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Dee Benson, a much-loved activist whose contributions to her community will continue to uphold her legacy.

COMMEMORATING THE COURAGE OF THE HAITIAN SOLDIERS THAT FOUGHT FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE IN THE "SIEGE OF SAVANNAH"

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in appreciation of the significant Haitian contribution to the American fight for independence. A pioneering band of 500 Haitians volunteered at the inception of this Nation's great story, laying life and limb on the line for the cause of liberty. That effort left an indelible mark on history, drawing the largest unit of soldiers of African descent to fight in the 'Siege of Savannah.'

It is the highest expression of selflessness and generosity to brush aside geopolitical divisions and serve nobly in support of another nation. We salute these valiant men—over 300 of which were killed on our soil—for helping secure and establish our great democracy, for answering the call in defense of neighbors, in defense of friends.

That island nation has, over the years, proven its commitment to courage—leading a successful battle for independence of its own and repudiating early the pernicious institution of slavery. Hundreds of years later, we have not forgotten.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life and legacy of TOM LANTOS. The passing of Chairman LANTOS is a great loss to the Congress, our Nation, and to oppressed people worldwide.

Born in Budapest, Congressman LANTOS was 16 in 1944 when Nazis captured and occupied the city. He twice escaped Nazi labor